

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 06164 201326Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02  
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15  
ICA-20 OMB-01 HA-05 AID-05 ACDA-12 /112 W  
-----100312 210639Z /64

R 191248Z APR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1044  
INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY  
AMCONSUL CALCUTTA  
AMEMBASSY DACCA  
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU  
AMCONSUL MADRAS

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 6164

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PFOR PK IN  
SUBJECT: VAJPAYEE ALLEGATION OF SECRET SIMLA UNDERSTANDING

REF A. NEW DELHI 6067; B. NEW DELHI 5540

1. FUROR OVER FOREIGN MINISTER VAJPAYEE'S ALLEGATION  
THAT MRS. GANDHI HAD REACHED A "SECRET  
UNDERSTANDING" WITH BHUTTO AT SIMLA IN 1972 DOMINATED  
CONSIDERATION OF INDO-PAKISTANI RELATIONS IN THE LOK  
SABHA DEBATE ON FOREIGN POLICY APRIL 18. TOWARD  
THE END OF HIS REPLY TO THE FOREIGN POLICY DEBATE,  
VAJPAYEE REITERATED HIS EARLIER PUBLIC STATEMENT  
(REF B) THAT MRS GANDHI HAD REACHED A "SECRET  
UNDERSTANDING" WITH BHUTTO AT THE TIME OF THE SIMLA ACCORD IN  
1972. VAJPAYEE TOLD THE HOUSE THAT WHILE IN OPPOSITION  
HE HAD MADE AN OPEN CHARGE THAT THERE WAS A SECRET UNDERSTANDING AND  
HE  
WAS NOW MAKING THE STATEMENT AS FOREIGN MINISTER.  
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"I HAVE ALL THE RECORDS," HE SAID. HE SAID THAT HE  
HAD TRIED, SINCE COMING TO OFFICE, TO VERIFY THE  
EXISTENCE OF SUCH AN UNDERSTANDING AND THAT  
HE HAD REVIEWED THE FILES OF THE SIMLA MEETING  
AND TALKED WITH KNOWLEDGEABLE PEOPLE.  
HAVING "PIECED TOGETHER" THIS EVIDENCE, HE REAFFIRMED  
THAT THERE HAD BEEN SOME SORT OF SECRET

UNDERSTANDING "IN CONFIDENTIAL CONVERSATION BETWEEN MRS. GANDHI AND MR. BHUTTO." VAJPAYEE ALSO MADE REFERENCE TO FACT THAT HE HAD BEEN PRESENT IN SIMLA AT THE TIME AND THAT IT HAD BEEN COMMON KNOWLEDGE THERE THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS HAD RUN INTO DIFFICULTY AND SUBSEQUENT PUZZLEMENT WHEN THE TALKS ENDED IN AGREEMENT IN WHICH THERE WAS REFERENCE TO THE "FINAL SETTLEMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR."

2. AMIDST SHOUTING FROM THE OPPOSITION, VAJPAYEE PERSISTED IN COMPLETING HIS STATEMENT TO THE EFFECT THAT HE WAS RAISING THIS ISSUE AS AN INTERNAL MATTER AND THAT THE GOVERNMENT FULLY ACCEPTED THE OBLIGATIONS OF THE SIMLA AGREEMENT. GIST OF THE SUBSEQUENT UPROAR WHICH LASTED CLOSE TO AN HOUR WAS THE OPPOSITION'S INSISTENCE THAT VAJPAYEE MUST LAY ON THE TABLE THE OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS ON WHICH HE BASED HIS ACCUSATION. VAJPAYEE RESPONDED THAT SINCE HE HAD NOT CITED STATE DOCUMENTS SPECIFICALLY, HE WAS NOT OBLIGED BY THE RULES TO LAY ANY PAPERS BEFORE THE HOUSE. FINALLY, THE SPEAKER SAID THAT HE WOULD EXAMINE THE POINTS MADE BY THE MEMBERS AND GIVE HIS RULING LATER. GOHEEN

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Subject:** VAJPAYEE ALLEGATION OF SECRET SIMLA UNDERSTANDING  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PK, IN, (GANDHI, INDIRA), (VAJPAYEE, ATAL BEHARI)  
**To:** STATE  
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